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To: Examiner Toan C. To

From: Ralph E. Smith

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Date: December 8, 2004

Group Art Unit: 3616

Re: Application No. 10/615,575

See the attached Response to Office Action Summary (re Election and Restriction).

*I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the Patent and Trademark Office (Fax No. (703) 872-9306) on December 8, 2004.*

Susan J. Sidwell



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**PATENT**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Application No.: 10/615,575  
Filing Date: July 8, 2003  
Applicant: Bannon  
Group Art Unit: 3616  
Examiner: Toan C. To  
Title: STEERING COLUMN/AIRBAG TUNABLE IMPACT  
ABSORPTION SYSTEM  
Attorney Docket: 706289US1

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MS Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION SUMMARY (ELECTION AND RESTRICTION)**

Sir:

In response to the Office Action Summary mailed November 17, 2004, please consider the following.


The Examiner has required an election to choose a single disclosed species for prosecution on the merits. Accordingly, Applicant elects, without traverse, Species 2 (Figure 3).

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Claims 1, 2 and 4—14 are generic to both species, and Claim 3 reads on the elected species.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 12/8/04

By:   
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10/615,575

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